

# *Crystal Forms*

B A R B A D O S





1. *Lava Bubble*
2. *Ah Gem*
3. *A Memory of Home*
4. *Aries Dream*
5. *Rock Crystal*
6. *Symbol of Power*
7. *Tea Baby*
8. *First in Class*



*Lava Bubble*





*Ah Gem*





*A Memory  
of Home*





*Aries Dream*



# Rock Crystal Pendant





*Symbol  
Of  
Power*







*Tea Baby*





*First in Class*



# *Grand Duchess*





Crystal Forms, Barbados  
Island beauty captured in crystal.

Fascination with light, an appreciation for his Caribbean heritage, and a handy way with crystal has made Jamal J. Ifil, owner of Crystal Forms, one of Barbados' most successful lampworkers. Jamal discovered the wonders of lampworking one day about ten years ago when he walked into a crystal shop. It was the light from a glass paperweight, the sheer beauty of it that caught his eye. Instantly he was hooked.

In the years that followed, Jamal was taught by a master craftsman and apprenticed under several international master artists. His passion for the art form grew as he experimented with crystal and the way it captures light. He also began utilising 24k gold as well as pure silver to create collections of wearable art, ornaments and decorative functional pieces.

His materials of choice is borosilicate, a non-traditional form of crystal. Created in the late 19th century, this type of crystal has proven to be safe and durable. Some uses include astronomical reflecting telescope mirror components - and the thermal insulating tiles on the space shuttle!

In Crystal Forms, Jamal's design studio, located at Pelican Village, Bridgetown, borosilicate is used to craft the most exquisite ornaments, elegant jewelry, innovative lamps and sculptural pieces. Those who visit, will also discover Jamal's fun and flirty flapship collection, along with the innovative and exclusive designs.

Drawing inspiration from across the lush, colourful Caribbean, his ideas and creativity come from time spent at the beach as a child, island scenery, the warmth of the people, and the rich wildlife. Miniature ladybirds, dragonflies, turtles and hummingbirds, all in crystal splendour, populate the display shelves of his studio.

Winner of numerous national awards and honours for his work in the fields of art and fashion, Jamal has also created one-of-a-kind pieces for royalty, and has exhibited worldwide.

The studio is highly ranked by tourists and locals as a must-see experience. Part of that is down to Jamal's engaging manner and friendly customer service. He enjoys giving demonstrations and interacting with people who fall in love with his crystal art pretty much the same way he fell in love with the glass paperweight all those years ago.

"Although I'm the artist and have been doing this for a some time," he says, "it's always magical to see crystal take form, to watch the colours blend to create a striking effect. What adds to my inspiration is the clients' expressions when they see the finished pieces!"